

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please substitute the paragraph presented on the next page for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

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**ABSTRACT**

A method for operating a cooking appliance having a cooking appliance control system and a door. The method includes automatically opening the door using the cooking appliance control system when a cooking process is complete, and automatically closing the door when a physical quantity falls below a predetermined threshold value stored in a memory of the cooking appliance control system. In addition, a cooking appliance includes a cooking chamber, a door, a cooking appliance control system having a memory, a sensor disposed in the cooking chamber, a guide device, and a door opening device including a positioning motor and a rod. The cooking appliance control system is configured to actuate the positioning motor as a function of the output signal so as to automatically open the door when a cooking process is complete and automatically close the door when a physical quantity falls below a predetermined threshold value.